

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:263

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015

Buxa Tiger Reserve

Arunmozhihevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that no tigers are left in the Buxa tiger reserve park in West Bengal and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether recently, camera traps laid deep in the forest have captured movement of poachers with firearms in core areas and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the shortage of staff has led to the disappearance of tigers in Buxa Tiger Reserve Forest; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) No Sir. As per the latest countrywide All India Estimation of Tiger, Co-predators and Prey, 2014, total number of tigers present in the Northern West Bengal, which inter alia includes Buxa Tiger Reserve also, estimated tiger population is 3.
- (b) Yes Sir. Field formations under the State Government are mandated to deal with day-to-day management of tiger reserves. Such cases are dealt as per the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 by the field formations.
- (c) & (d) No Sir. Though the existing staff strength is lesser than the sanctioned posts, yet the gap has been met up by engaging semi-permanent staff and daily wage labourers.
